



H.R. 1441 – Stop Arming Iran Act

Floor Situation

H.R. 1441 is being considered on the floor under suspension of the rules and will require a two-thirds majority vote for passage. This legislation was introduced by Representative Gabrielle Giffords (D-AZ) on March 9, 2007. The bill was ordered to be reported from the Committee on Foreign Affairs, by voice vote, on March 27, 2007.

H.R. 1441 is expected to be considered on the floor on June 11, 2007.

Summary

H.R. 1441 prohibits the Department of Defense (“the Department”) from selling any parts for F-14 fighter aircraft, whether through the Defense Reutilization and Marketing Service or through another agency or element of the Department. The bill also prohibits the licensing for the export of parts for F-14 fighter aircraft to a non-United States person or entity.

However, the Department may sell parts for F-14 fighter aircraft to a museum or similar organization located in the United States that is involved in the preservation of F-14 fighter aircraft for historical purposes.

Background

F-14 ‘Tomcat’ fighter aircraft have recently been retired, and their parts are being made available by auction in large quantities. Iran is the only country, besides the United States, flying F-14 fighter aircraft and is purchasing surplus parts for such aircraft from brokers. The Government Accountability Office has, as a result of undercover investigative work, declared the acquisition of the surplus United States military equipment, including parts for F-14 fighter aircraft, to be effortless.

Upon the seizure of such sensitive surplus military equipment being sold to Iran, United States customs agents have discovered these same items, having been resold by the Department of Defense, being brokered illegally to Iran again. The sale of spare parts for F-14 fighter aircraft could make it more difficult to confront the nuclear weapons capability of Iran and would strengthen the ground war capability of Iran. To prevent these threats to regional and global security, the sale of spare parts for F-14 fighter aircraft should be prohibited.

Cost

The CBO score was not available at the time of publication.

Staff Contact

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